PITTA

Newsletter of Deccan Birders (formerly Birdwatchers' Society of Andhra Pradesh)
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Editor's note

Some of our members had been to Tanzania for a week-long trip from 9th to 15th of October, 2017. In this Special Issue of the Pitta, we are happy to bring you the experiences shared by the participants, along with a number of colourful photographs. (With inputs from Ajit Kumar Mahendra, Yella Prakash Rao, Shantisree, Gulshan Vegesna, Divya Shafeela, Ishika, JVD Moorty, Dr Geetanjali and Dr Samuel Sukumar)

TRIP REPORT: TANZANIA

Day Zero to Three – October 09-12, 2017

Ajit Kumar Mahendra

Photo: Dr Samuel Sukumar

October 9-10, 2017

Ever since Shafaat *saheb* announced the trip to Tanzania, volunteers started pouring in and it was oversubscribed in no time. The trip planning had begun by April and all the finer aspects, including the detailing of Safari vehicles and tipping amounts to the catering staff were taken care of. Regular mails were shot off on aspects of the tour and the participants also had a chance to meet each other a week prior to the journey. We were 29 of us in all and the ladies almost beat the men this time with a participation of 14 members!

Arrival at Addis Ababa (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

The journey began at Shamshabad on October 9, 2017, with most of the enthusiasts hailing from Hyderabad, while others joined us in Mumbai and some joined directly at Arusha in Tanzania. We had to wait at Mumbai for over 8 hours to take the 'cheap and best' Ethiopian Airways flight at 5:00AM on October 10, 2017. We utilized this time discussing everything under the sun, including birds

and possible adventures that were awaiting us at the Savannah. The flight from Mumbai to Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, was ahead of schedule and it took us a little over 4 hours to reach the African Continent.

It was a pleasant flight with most of us trying to determine our position in space and identify land features as we crossed over onto the Horn of Africa. The change over at Addis was quick and as per plan. We reached Kilimanjaro airport by 1:00PM local time, where we were greeted by the tour operator.

We were quickly herded into a bus that took us to the Meserani Snake Park on the outskirts of the town of Arusha. The park had a large collection of reptiles including the deadly Black Mamba, the Green Mamba, the Egyptian Spitting Cobra, Puff Adders and a variety of owls, vultures, crocodiles and turtles. Some of the members had a special experience of coiling the snakes around their necks.

Apart from this, the park had a large collection of birds which including Wagtails, Mousebirds, varieties of Doves, Weavers and nesting Herons. We headed towards the city for the night stay after a meal *en route.*

Ishika handling a snake
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

October 11, 2017: Tarangire National Park

Photo: Yella Prakash Rao

It was an early morning start for all. Everyone was ready and packed for the first shift from the Backpacker's Camp at Arusha to the Panorama Camp site which was to be our sojourn for the next 2 days. We started after a delicious continental breakfast. The highlight for us, particularly vegetarians, was the *ragi* porridge and hibiscus juice. The beautiful rooftop setting gave us a view of the town and the early morning workers going to work in sleek minibuses. Neatly packed vegetables, fresh from the market, were being taken in hand drawn carts.

Driving through the small and beautiful town of Arusha, we soon came onto the highway. The convoy of 4 Land Rovers carrying our group of 29 was driving at a constant speed. Lot of our misconceptions about Africa, mostly gleaned from our exposure to television, came crumbling down. It was a pleasant feeling to drive through a town and not see much traffic. We passed through coffee plantations on the outskirts of the city. Two things struck us - there was no garbage anywhere in the town, and plastic was nowhere to be seen. Soon we passed through a cantonment. I noticed that our driver – Dickinson was his name but everyone affectionately called him Dick – was driving at a steady speed of 50-55 km, and did not overtake any vehicle ahead of him. When I commented on this, he informed that there are restrictions in the cantonment about driving and even honking. We spotted groups of young boys, dressed in black and their bodies also painted in black and their faces decorated in white. Dickinson informed us that these boys had recently undergone circumcision and that they would dress this way till their wound healed. Incidentally, circumcision is practiced by most tribes in Africa and is not restricted to Muslims alone as in India.

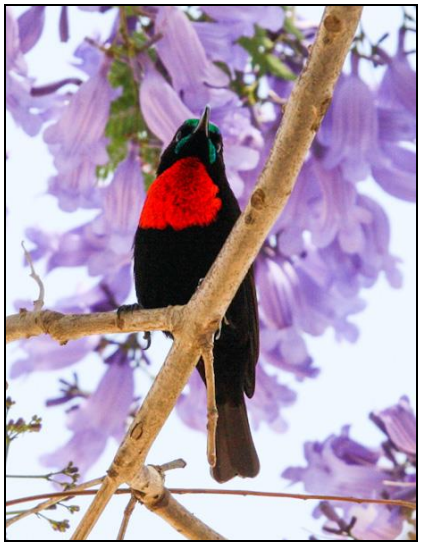
Breakfast time at Panorama Camp (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

The first sighting of the day was the White-bellied Go-away Bird which was spotted by Moorty and his group who were ahead of us. We missed it and never could sight this bird again.

White-bellied Go-away Bird
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Photo: Yella Prakash Rao

The convoy halted at a petrol pump. Everyone got down to stretch their legs and bought a few packets of snacks. Sukumar and a few others, already had their heads in the sky and were clicking away. We all joined them and found the source of attraction on a jacaranda tree which was in full bloom. Atop it we could spot the Scarlet-chested Sunbird and the Red-Throated Bee-eater. A third bird with dull plumage may have been a female sunbird. A Speckled Pigeon was perched on the roof of the petrol station and could be captured.



Scarlet-chested Sunbird
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

The subsequent drive was uneventful and we reached the gates of Tarangire Game Reserve around noon. Our guides-cum-drivers soon got busy in completing the formalities to enter the reserve. The office of the Game Reserve was in a large tent, well-furnished and with computers. The registration was manual though. We entered our names in 2 registers. The place around was shady with lots of trees. We realized that the entrance to each reserve is a well-furnished office with excellent toilet facilities and a good restaurant with snacks and drinks. Outdoor seating was available. Similar facilities were available within the reserve. Cleanliness was the hallmark of all these points. Visitors are not permitted to get down anywhere else and the way the guides were strict in imposing the rules speaks about enforcement. Each one of us had to register and entry fees was paid. Since it was noon and we had had a very early breakfast, we decided to enter the reserve after lunch which we had under the shade of a banyan tree. The leftover food and the packing were segregated and I later noticed that it was loaded, to be carried bank to the camp. A lesson for us to learn on environment and its protection.

Superb Starling
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

During the time we spent relaxing after lunch we could see lots of birds at close quarters. We saw Superb Starling, White-headed Buffalo-weaver near the restaurant, and Meyer's Parrots and Blue-cheeked Cordon Bleu by the dozen bathing and hovering around a pipe used for watering plants. These birds are seen close to water and human habitation.

Banded Mongoose (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

We drove into the park around 2 pm. We saw several Lions, Zebras, Wildebeest, Mongoose, Ostriches and Vultures. We returned to Panorama Camp well after dark. We were all accommodated in igloo-type rooms. They looked cute from the outside but were small with very little ventilation. We had two options, to either shut the door and feel cramped or to keep the door open in the wild and run the risk of being visited by the local inhabitants! We quickly unpacked and settled in the dining hall for an early dinner and were entertained by a local group to some local dance, music and acrobatics.

Elephant at a termite mound
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

October 12, 2017: Lake Manyara National Park

Photo: Dr Samuel Sukumar

Photo: Yella Prakash Rao

The Panaroma Camp site was situated on a high ground and commands a breathtaking view of Lake Manyara. We were the biggest group of tourists at the campsite. After an early breakfast we got down the *ghat* road to the Lake Manyara reserve. We first drove to a marshy stretch of shallow water where we spotted a number of waders, Stilts, Pelicans, African Jacanas, Saddle-billed Stork, Sacred Ibis, Egyptian Goose etc. The reeds in the water were a good site for the Weaver bird's nests and we did see one. A few Terns challenged our photographic skills because of their swift movements. We could see a few Hippopotamuses, though only their snouts and upper torso. A Cattle Egret was giving company to a lone Buffalo. Dick informed us that the herd abandons old members, who in turn form small herds to protect themselves. Probably this was one such. Sad that even animals sometime behave like humans and abandon their seniors.

African Jacana (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Having done with the residents of this marshy stretch, reminiscent of our own Kolleru & Chilka Lakes, we drove to the main entrance of the Manyara Game Reserve. After quickly completing formalities and a quick brief, we drove into the forest and we were greeted by some monkeys who cutely posed for our shutter bugs. The noisy Hornbills soon attracted our attention and were captured in our Canons and Nikons for posterity. We reached a small stream and spotted an African Paradise-flycatcher and a Grey-headed Kingfisher. The flycatcher eluded our cameras and flew off. Several Elephants, Giraffes with Red-billed Oxpeckers perched on them and some other birds kept us engaged.

Egyptian Goose (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Red-and-yellow Barbet
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Around noon, we reached the first resting spot. We could get down and stretch ourselves. *En route*, we spotted the Red-and-yellow Barbet, a cute cousin of our own Coppersmith Barbet. Relaxing here for some time we could see the ubiquitous weaver birds at fairly close range and photograph at ease.

Grey-headed Kingfisher
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Hamerkop
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Southern Ground Hornbill
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Olive Baboon (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Zebra (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

We were soon herded into vehicles and were off to our final destination of the day – Manyara Lake. As we approached the lake, we were greeted by a stretch of water dotted with hundreds of pink spots. Flamingoes in hundreds, nay thousands, were the source of pink. On the water's edge we could spot lots of waders – Egyptian Geese and Red-billed Teal, most of whom were resting with their heads hidden in their wings. A teal similar to these except a black beak was also in the group – Grey-headed Teal. Water Thick-knee, Ringed Plovers, White-faced Whistling-ducks, African Spoonbills were some of the species we spotted amongst hordes of large flamingoes.

Because of a walkway built over the waters, we could see the birds at very close range. It was fascinating to see the way these birds feed, particularly the flamingoes. They literally sweep their large curved beaks on the water's surface. A group of school kids joined us with their incessant banter, giving us anxious moments lest the birds take to the wings. But the animals in this part of the globe seem to take all such human interventions in their stride, confident that we mean no harm.

The smell of rotten flesh assailed our vegetarian nostrils as we approached the water's edge. The source was a dead buffalo. There were no signs of predators having made the kill. It seemed to be due to more other causes – old age or illness. This carcass attracted a White-backed Vulture and helped increase our tally of vultures.

Photo: Yella Prakash Rao

In between birding and photography, we finished our lunch and, having paid a visit to the hot water spring on the water's edge, started the journey to our next destination. This was not a birding site but a cultural one – the Masai tribal village. Here, we were received by all the villagers who gave us a traditional welcome, dancing for us in their traditional dress. We were all dressed in their tribal attire. This was followed by a visit to the houses and exhibition of their handicrafts. Having spent an hour at the village, we drove back to camp.

Lilac-breasted Roller
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Reaching camp after dark, we realized that there was no power supply. We spent most of the night in darkness and woke up early next morning to be greeted by dry taps in the toilets. Water supply was restored in time for all us to have a bath before breakfast and pack to move to our next birding area and the most memorable camp of the trip. We were informed by the staff at campsite that a snake was slithering near the toilets which we were all frequenting in the night with help of our torch lights. However, he was put to rest. Some of our fellow birders paid a visit and paid their last respects to the departed soul – an Egyptian Spitting Cobra!

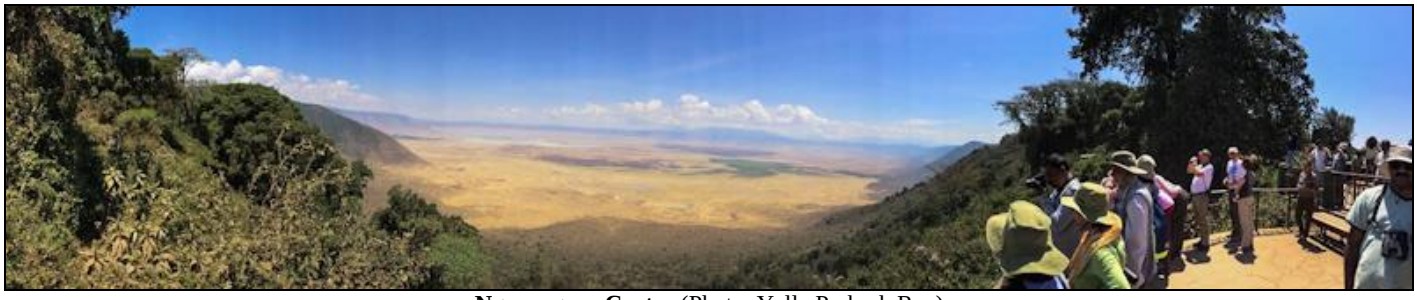
Day Four – October 13, 2017

Yella Prakash Rao

Photo: Dr Samuel Sukumar

Serengeti

It was another bright and sunny Savannah morning and our photographers could not have asked for anything better. After savouring the best of pineapples and sweet potatoes for breakfast, the team was all set for one of the most happening wildlife arenas in the African continent, the Serengeti.



Ngorongoro Crater (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Black-headed Heron (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

After a short drive we reached the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA) where we had to pass through the crater wall to proceed to Serengeti. A short halt here attracted us to the coffee shop selling home grown Tanzanian coffee and also some interesting curios.

Namaqua Dove (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Pied Crow (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Eastern Chanting Goshawk (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

The drive from the crater wall into the Serengeti was truly breathtaking with the usual Acacia trees of all heights and shapes. The terrain was truly a geologist's lab as was briefed in the info room. *En route* we came across some Masai model villages and their tribesmen and women, grazing their cattle. A lion king was waiting at the entrance to welcome us, and we were really elated to see it sitting almost next to the track. This was followed by the sighting of the Eastern Chanting Goshawk with its typical black and white stockings!

Masai Model Village (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

At the lunch spot we had the usual Superb Starlings, Lovebirds, Bulbuls, Weavers and the unperturbable Marabou Storks giving us company. Post lunch we passed a nest of a Tawny Eagle and a Secretarybird with a fledgling exercising the wings for a takeoff. A pride of lions too passed by, comprising a lot of young ones enjoying themselves in the protection of the lionesses. The drive through these large expanses of grasslands was mesmerizing with no end in sight. The excitement continued as we sighted one new bird after another, with the same being documented meticulously by Ishika in our jeep. We met a lone giraffe and some elephants when our number one vehicle got stuck in the mud. We had some anxious moments when the same herd of elephants had to pass through our column of vehicles. The vehicle was cleverly unstuck by the guides by pushing it out of the mud using another vehicle. We had never seen a recovery of these sorts so far!

Giraffe (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

It was close to sunset and a number of birds including the Egyptian Geese flew past in flocks, probably on their way to the roosting sites. The Serengeti sunset was beautifully captured by most of the members, and a lone Hyena near the Airport added to the excitement. We were desperate to spot a few more animals and birds in the fading light while the drivers/guides were finding their way to the campsite for the night stay. We were initially happy to be lost and doing night safari in the comfort of the jeep but we realised this could not continue any longer as it was getting cold. Just then we saw the silhouette of a Verreaux's Eagle-owl perched on the Acacia nearby. We all struggled to get a shot of it but it was too quick and escaped into the darkness. The safari came to an abrupt stop when we chanced upon the campsite via radio instructions from the other vehicles.

Mr Rogate, expert bird guide
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

African Elephant (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Red-billed Firefinch (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

The Land Cruiser stuck in the mud (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Rufous-crowned Roller chasing Black-chested Snake Eagle
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Now we were at the Seronera Camp site and were pleased to see our tents pitched and Chef John and Co preparing dinner. We collected our bedrolls and occupied the nominated tents for the night. It was a scary feeling to know that we were in the open game reserve without any protection around us. But the fact that we were a large group helped us gather the minimal courage required to pass the night in the wilderness. After a hot cup of coffee some of us volunteered for the cooking and cutting jobs in the kitchen so as to expedite the dinner preparations. A bottle of Jack Daniels and Amarula wine gave us company under the starry Serengeti sky as we discussed wild and exotic destinations that were in our check lists. It was an evening every one of us will remember for years to come.

John treated us to a hearty vegetarian meal – meat is not cooked in the camp to dissuade the carnivores from visiting the camp area. We retired to bed after having made preparations mentally and physically to deal with intruding hyenas, snakes and the lions. The hyenas did call on us at around 1:00AM, but decided to limit it to a few cries and songs.

The next morning saw most of us ready before sunrise and taking selfies with the Serengeti sunrise. After a sumptuous breakfast and a forced Swachh Tanzania Abhiyan, we set out to the most awaited event of our trip, the visit to the Ngorongoro Crater. On the way to the crater we were fortunate to witness a Rufous-crowned Roller chasing away a Black-chested Snake Eagle. Typical to its flight, it flew banking violently to the left and to the right calling out as it chased the eagle away from its nesting area.

All in all, every one left Camp Seronera wishing that they could spend one more night amongst the hyenas!

Day Five – October 14, 2017

Gulshan Vegesna & Divya Shafeela

Ngorongoro Crater (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Ngorongoro

On Day 4, I thought we had passed through the most exciting part of the safari in Serengeti, the rim of the crater Ngorongoro – we had crossed this rim on the way to Serengeti and had stopped at a view point. Right after lunch on Day 5, as we reached this UNESCO World Heritage site, we felt looked barren except for a few water points. I wondered what kind of wildlife can possibly exist there. Little did I know that life exists in the most unlikely of places – that's the beauty of this wonderful world that we live in. We saw a few black spots on the crater floor below which I thought were small shrubs, when one of our group members pointed out that they were elephants! That is when I realized we were at 610m height from the floor of the crater, and kilometres away from the elephants. The best of our binoculars could only enlarge them to the size of an ant!

We still hadn't met all the Big 5, with the Leopard and the Rhino still evading us. We started our journey from Serengeti to Ngorongoro Crater quite upbeat, though. Enter the Ngorongoro crater! The drive down the crater was beautiful. As we entered, it felt like we were in a wildlife documentary (how I wished we would go off the designated mud track!) Wildebeest, Zebras and Thompson's Gazelles were grazing around lazily, occasionally looking at the passing tourists in Land Cruisers. As we trailed along the mud roads, we saw Schalow's Wheatears, Egyptian Geese, a pair of Grey-crowned Cranes pecking away happily, and a Kori Bustard. We also spotted the Secretarybird. It was interesting to see it rapidly trample the prey with its feet. Its tail resembling a quill justified the name, along with its black and white feathers, the way secretaries used to dress in earlier days according to our tour guide Dickinson.

Grey-crowned Crane (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Secretarybird (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

As we drove on, we saw lush green water plants in blue waters, an oasis in the midst of a dry crater – it was the beautiful Lake Magadi. Its scenic beauty was a feast to the eyes, which were till then straining to find animals and birds camouflaged in the savannah and the jungles. Far away, there were hippos lazing in the water, beating the heat of the day with their glistening backs. Right around them were Lesser Flamingos with their long legs – it was a beauty to behold. As much as we wanted to linger on and soak in God's beautiful creation, our tour guide lured us away with the promise of taking us closer to the hippos. We had our lunch in what may have been the most scenic spot of the whole trip, with a couple of Pelicans and the hippos in the lake for company. We could also see the elephants in the farthest distance.

Lunch by the Lake Magadi (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

A group of Hippos (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Post lunch, we started our mission on the Big 5 but spotted 3 lions having an afternoon siesta while the peafowl were at some distance from them. And then you think… "wow what a life". We were suddenly reminded of the fact that it was our last day and our target was the big 5.

Oh boy, were we glad we listened to Dick! The next stop took our breath away – we stopped at a marsh that was filled with Hippos and Sacred Ibis. The Hippos tossing and turning around to cool themselves against the backdrop of a small hillock was a sight to behold. We observed that some Hippos had dry backs with bird droppings on them, which was a bit strange.

That is when we saw a pack of hyenas around. They were attempting to reach the dead hippos. The hyenas were emerging from the lake all covered in mud, eagerly looking toward the dead hippos – their meal for the day. We saw a lone jackal too lurking around probably to get a few crumbs from the leftovers. Sadly, we couldn't stay longer to see the action as we had to move out of the crater by 4:00PM.

Waterbuck
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

We embarked on the last leg of the safari, out of the crater. As if to cheer us up, a Waterbuck appeared out of the trees on the edge of the crater. Elephants too came out to bid us goodbye as they fed on the dry twigs and barks of trees.

A colony of Weavers
(Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Hyena (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

We embarked on the last leg of the safari, out of the crater. As if to cheer us up, a Waterbuck appeared out of the trees on the edge of the crater. Elephants too came out to bid us goodbye as they fed on the dry twigs and barks of trees. The climb up was smooth and uneventful giving us time to enjoy the crater in all its beauty at various heights. We once again stopped at the same view point on the rim, only this time around I knew what was down there – untouched creation of God in perfect harmony!

Jackal (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

We headed to Arusha with a heavy heart. Leaving Ngorongoro was not easy. We reached the Backpacker's Den for the night stay. The next morning was spent visiting various places of interest around Arusha, including the Heritage Village and some Tanzanite shopping. While we could see Mount Meru while crisscrossing the city of Arusha, Kilimanjaro looked ever elusive. We tried to get a glimpse of the peak on the return flight but the clouds never gave us a chance. Maybe we will need to return to Tanzania and climb the Kilimanjaro to see the summit! The return journey to India too was pleasant and uneventful.

In all, we were able to see over 200 species of birds and a number of wild animals of Africa. This trip also helped in bonding the BSAP members in bonhomie. And finally, we all learnt why monkeys and elephants savour the Amarula fruit in the African wild!

Hartebeest (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Mwanza Flat-headed Rock Agama (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Lions courting (Photo: Yella Prakash Rao)

Complete list of birds seen during the trip:

Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name
1	Abyssinian Wheatear	*Oenanthe lugubris*	21	Bateleur Eagle	*Terathopius ecaudatus*
2	African Black-headed Oriole	*Oriolus larvatus*	22	Bearded Woodpecker	*Dendropicos namaquus*
3	African Dusky Flycatcher	*Muscicapa adusta*	23	Black Crake	*Amaurornis flavirostra*
4	African Fish Eagle	*Haliaeetus vocifer*	24	Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher (Vanga Flycatcher)	*Bias musicus*
5	African Golden Oriole	*Oriolus auratus*	25	Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill	*Bycanistes subcylindricus*
6	African Grey Hornbill	*Tockus nasutus*	26	Black-bellied Bustard	*Lissotis melanogaster*
7	African Hawk-eagle	*Aquila spilogaster*	27	Black-crowned Tchagra	*Tchagra senegala*
8	African Hoopoe	*Upupa africana*	28	Black-headed Heron	*Ardea melanocephala*
9	African Jacana	*Actophilornis africanus*	29	Black-shouldered Kite	*Elanus axillaris*
10	African Marsh Harrier	*Circus ranivorus*	30	Blacksmith Lapwing	*Vanellus armatus*
11	African Mourning Dove	*Streptopelia decipiens*	31	Blue-breasted Bee-eater	*Merops variegatus*
12	African Palm Swift	*Cypsiurus parvus*	32	Blue-capped Cordon-bleu	*Uraeginthus cyanocephalus*
13	African Paradise-flycatcher	*Terpsiphone viridis*	33	Blue-naped Mousebird	*Urocolius macrourus*
14	African Pied Wagtail	*Motacilla aguimp*	34	Booted Eagle	*Hieraaetus pennatus*
15	African Pipit	*Anthus cinnamomeus*	35	Brown Snake-eagle	*Circaetus cinereus*
16	African Spoonbill	*Platalea alba*	36	Brubru	*Nilaus afer*
17	African Stonechat	*Saxicola torquatus*	37	Bush Pipit	*Anthus caffer*
18	Augur Buzzard	*Buteo augur*	38	Capped Wheatear	*Oenanthe pileata*
19	Barn Owl	*Tyto alba*	39	Cattle Egret	*Bubulcus ibis*
20	Barn Swallow	*Hirundo rustica*	40	Chestnut-banded Plover	*Charadrius pallidus*

Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name
41	Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse	*Pterocles exustus*	96	Laughing Dove	*Spilopelia senegalensis*
42	Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater	*Merops oreobates*	97	Lesser Flamingo	*Phoeniconaias minor*
43	Collared Dove	*Streptopelia decaocto*	98	Lesser Masked Weaver	*Ploceus intermedius*
44	Collared Sunbird	*Hedydipna collaris*	99	Lesser Seedcracker	*Pyrenestes minor*
45	Common Greenshank	*Tringa nebularia*	100	Lesser Spotted Eagle	*Clanga pomarina*
46	Common House Martin	*Delichon urbicum*	101	Lilac-breasted Roller	*Coracias caudatus*
47	Common Kestrel	*Falco tinnunculus*	102	Little Bee-eater	*Merops pusillus*
48	Common Moorhen	*Gallinula chloropus*	103	Little Egret	*Egretta garzetta*
49	Common Ostrich	*Struthio camelus*	104	Little Grebe	*Tachybaptus ruficollis*
50	Common Ringed Plover	*Charadrius hiaticula*	105	Little Ringed Plover	*Charadrius dubius*
51	Common Sandpiper	*Actitis hypoleucos*	106	Little Stint	*Calidris minuta*
52	Coqui Francolin	*Peliperdix coqui*	107	Long-tailed Fiscal	*Lanius cabanisi*
53	Crested Guineafowl	*Guttera pucherani*	108	Long-toed Lapwing	*Vanellus crassirostris*
54	Crowned Plover	*Vanellus coronatus*	109	Magpie Shrike	*Urolestes melanoleucus*
55	Curlew Sandpiper	*Calidris ferruginea*	110	Malachite Kingfisher	*Corythornis cristatus*
56	Double-banded Courser	*Rhinoptilus africanus*	111	Marabou Stork	*Leptoptilos crumenifer*
57	Dusky Turtle Dove	*Streptopelia lugens*	112	Marsh Sandpiper	*Tringa stagnatilis*
58	Eastern (Pale) Chanting Goshawk	*Melierax poliopterus*	113	Martial Eagle	*Polemaetus bellicosus*
59	Eastern Double-collared Sunbird	*Cinnyris mediocris*	114	Miombo Double-collared Sunbird	*Cinnyris manoensis*
60	Egyptian Goose	*Alopochen aegyptiaca*	115	Namaqua Dove	*Oena capensis*
61	Egyptian Vulture	*Neophron percnopterus*	116	Northern Shoveler	*Anas clypeata*
62	Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	*Turtur chalcospilos*	117	Northern Wheatear	*Oenanthe oenanthe*
63	Eurasian Hoopoe	*Upupa epops*	118	Northern White-crowned Shrike	*Eurocephalus rueppelli*
64	Eurasian Nightjar	*Caprimulgus europaeus*	119	Oriental Magpie Robin	*Copsychus saularis*
65	European Bee-eater	*Merops apiaster*	120	Palm-nut Vulture	*Gypohierax angolensis*
66	European Roller	*Coracias garrulus*	121	Pied Avocet	*Recurvirostra avosetta*
67	Feral Pigeon	*Columba livia domestica*	122	Pied Crow	*Corvus albus*
68	Fischer’s Sparrowlark	*Eremopterix leucopareia*	123	Pied Kingfisher	*Ceryle rudis*
69	Fischer's Lovebird	*Agapornis fischeri*	124	Pink-backed Pelican	*Pelecanus rufescens*
70	Forest Double-collared Sunbird	*Cinnyris fuelleborni*	125	Plain-backed Pipit	*Anthus leucophrys*
71	Fork-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus adsimilis*	126	Purple Grenadier	*Uraeginthus ianthinogaster*
72	Glossy Ibis	*Plegadis falcinellus*	127	Pygmy Falcon	*Polihierax semitorquatus*
73	Grasshopper Buzzard	*Butastur rufipennis*	128	Red-and-yellow Barbet	*Trachyphonus erythrocephalus*
74	Grassland Pipit	*Anthus cinnamomeus*	129	Red-billed Buffalo-weaver	*Bubalornis niger*
75	Great Spotted Cuckoo	*Clamator glandarius*	130	Red-billed Firefinch	*Lagonosticta senegala*
76	Great White Egret	*Ardea alba*	131	Red-billed Oxpecker	*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*
77	Great White Pelican	*Pelecanus onocrotalus*	132	Red-billed Teal	*Anas erythrorhyncha*
78	Greater Flamingo	*Phoenicopterus roseus*	133	Red-billed Weaver	*Bubalornis niger*
79	Greater Painted Snipe	*Rostratula benghalensis*	134	Red-capped Lark	*Calandrella cinerea*
80	Green Sandpiper	*Tringa ochropus*	135	Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu	*Uraeginthus bengalus*
81	Grey Heron	*Ardea cinerea*	136	Red-chested Cuckoo	*Cuculus solitarius*
82	Grey Wagtail	*Motacilla cinerea*	137	Red-eyed Dove	*Streptopelia semitorquata*
83	Grey-crowned Crane	*Balearica regulorum*	138	Red-faced Crombec	*Sylvietta whytii*
84	Grey-headed Gull	*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*	139	Red-fronted Tinkerbird	*Pogoniulus pusillus*
85	Grey-headed Kingfisher	*Halcyon leucocephala*	140	Red-necked Falcon	*Falco chicquera*

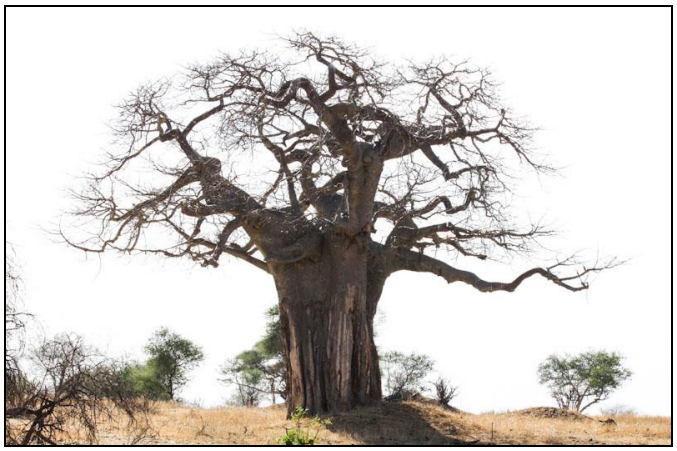
Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name	Sl No	Common Name	Scientific Name
141	Red-necked Spurfowl	*Francolinus afer*	173	Spur-winged Plover	*Vanellus miles*
142	Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant	*Microcarbo africanus*	174	Squacco Heron	*Ardeola ralloides*
143	Ring-necked Dove	*Streptopelia capicola*	175	Square-tailed Drongo	*Dicrurus ludwigii*
144	Rock Martin	*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*	176	Steppe Eagle	*Aquila nipalensis*
145	Rüppell's Vulture	*Gyps rueppellii*	177	Superb Starling	*Lamprotornis superbus*
146	Ruff	*Philomachus pugnax*	178	Taita Fiscal	*Lanius dorsalis*
147	Rufous-crowned Roller	*Coracias naevius*	179	Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill	*Tockus ruahae*
148	Rufous-tailed Weaver	*Histurgops ruficaudus*	180	Tawny Eagle	*Aquila rapax*
149	Rüppell's Starling	*Lamprotornis purpuroptera*	181	Thick-billed Seedeater	*Serinus burtoni*
150	Sacred Ibis	*Threskiornis aethiopicus*	182	Tropical Boubou	*Laniarius aethiopicus*
151	Saddle-billed Stork	*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*	183	Verreaux's Eagle	*Aquila verreauxii*
152	Scarlet-chested Sunbird	*Chalcomitra senegalensis*	184	Verreaux's Eagle-owl	*Bubo lacteus*
153	Schalow's Wheatear	*Oenanthe schalowi*	185	Village Weaver	*Ploceus cucullatus*
154	Secretarybird	*Sagittarius serpentarius*	186	Von der Decken's Hornbill	*Tockus deckeni*
155	Shelley's (or Hildebrandt's) Starling	*Lamprotornis shelleyi (or L. hildebrandti)*	187	Water Thick-knee	*Burhinus vermiculatus*
156	Short-tailed Lark	*Pseudalaemon fremantlii*	188	White-backed Vulture	*Gyps africanus*
157	Short-toed Snake Eagle	*Circaetus gallicus*	189	White-bellied Bustard	*Eupodotis senegalensis*
158	Silverbird	*Empidornis semipartitus*	190	White-bellied Go-away-bird	*Corythaixoides leucogaster*
159	Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	*Bycanistes brevis*	191	White-faced Whistling-duck	*Dendrocygna viduata*
160	Singing Bushlark	*Mirafra cantillans*	192	White-headed Buffalo Weaver	*Dinemellia dinemelli*
161	Slate-coloured Boubou	*Laniarius funebris*	193	White-headed Buffalo-weaver	*Dinemellia dinemelli*
162	Sooty Chat	*Myrmecocichla nigra*	194	White-headed Lapwing	*Vanellus albiceps*
163	Southern (Common) Fiscal	*Lanius collaris*	195	White-rumped Swift	*Apus caffer*
164	Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	*Passer diffusus*	196	Wood Sandpiper	*Tringa glareola*
165	Southern Ground Hornbill	*Bucorvus leadbeateri*	197	Yellow Wagtail	*Motacilla flava*
166	Southern Red Bishop??	*Euplectes orix*	198	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	*Buphagus africanus*
167	Speckled Mousebird	*Colius striatus*	199	Yellow-collared Lovebird	*Agapornis personatus*
168	Speckled Pigeon	*Columba guinea*	200	Yellow-necked Spurfowl	*Pternistis leucoscepus*
169	Speckled Weaver	*Sporopipes frontalis*	201	Yellow-throated Petronia	*Petronia superciliaris*
170	Speckle-fronted Weaver	*Sporopipes frontalis*	202	Yellow-throated Sandgrouse	*Pterocles gutturalis*
171	Splendid (Glossy) Starling	*Lamprotornis splendidus*	203	Yellow-vented (Dark-capped) Bulbul	*Pycnonotus goiavier*
172	Spur-winged Lapwing	*Vanellus spinosus*			

Some other photos taken during the trip:

Blue Monkey

Impala

Common Stonechat



Baobab Tree

Yellow-vented Bulbul

Red-billed Hornbill

Red-eyed Dove

Coqui Francolin

Fischer's Lovebird

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill

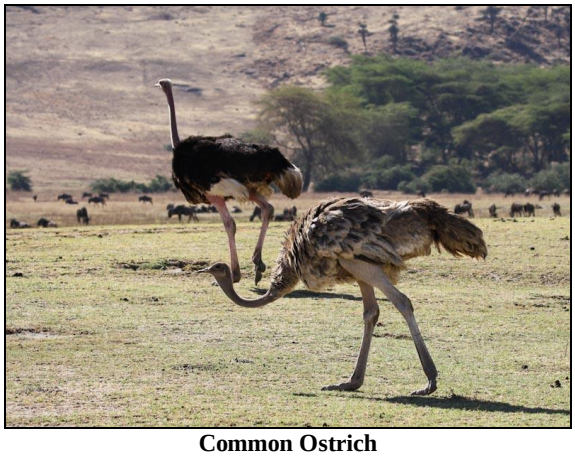
Southern Cordon Bleu

Bateleur Eagle

Red-necked Spurfowl

Yellow-necked Spurfowl

Rufous-crowned Roller



Common Ostrich

Common Warthog

Northern White-crowned Shrike

African Lion

Rüppell's Vulture

Hildebrandt's Starling

Long-tailed Fiscal

(Above photographs courtesy: Yella Prakash Rao)

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